GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:45
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2001
WATER AVAILABILITY THROUGH RAINS
NAWAL KISHORE RAI;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of water available through rains in the country, State-wise;

(b) the present requirement of water for agriculture and other purposes in the country, State-wise;

(c) the percentage of available water being utilised and wasted in each State; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to store and utilise the water?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (d) India receives an average annual precipitation of 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM)which also includes snow-melt. Out of this, 3000 BCMoccurs during monsoon. Availability of water is assessed river basin-wise. As per the assessment of Central Water Commission in 1993, the average annual flow in the year-systems of the country is assessed at 1869 BCM, out of which 1122 BCM is utilisable comprising of about 690 BCM as surface water and 432 BCMas replenishable ground water. Upto 1995, a live storage capacity of 177 BCM has been created byconstruction of large dams in the country. Besides, projects to add an additional storage capacity of about 75 BCM are under construction and projects with contemplated live storage of 132 BCM are under planning. Basin-wise average annual flow and live storage capacity created under construction and under consideration are given in Annex. In addition, water has also been diverted into canals by constructing a large number of barrages/weirs, etc. for utilisation of river water for various purposes. The utilisation through surface and ground water in 1997 has been reported as 605 BCM. Againstthis, the utilisation for irrigation is 501 BCM, domestic uses is 30 BCM, industries is 20 BCM, energy is 20 BCM and other uses is 34 BCM.

Government of India has been extending financial assistance under Accelerated Irrigation BenefitProgramme since 1996-97 to State Governments to help them complete the ongoing irrigation projects at the earliest. Government of India is also promoting rain water harvesting trough Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof-top rain water harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme under the Ministry of Rural Development, for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies. CentralGround Water Board has also taken up pilot studies for artificial ground water recharge. Assistance is also extended to State Governments under Command Area Development Programme for bridging the gap between potential created and utilised. Besides Government of India has also formulated National Perspective Plan envisaging interlinking of rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins/areas.